

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 DPW-01 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 RSR-01 /095 W

----- 102515

P R 180940 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3656

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CINCPAC

CDR JCRC NKP THAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 2973

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PFOR, LA

SUBJECT: SEARCH FOR MIA'S IN LAOS

REF: A. VIENTIANE 2898 B. VIENTIANE 2972

1. REFTEL A INFORMED DEPT THAT IN VIEW OF STALLED NEGOTIATIONS ON MILITARY PROTOCOL TO IMPLEMENT FEBRUARY 21 VIENTIANE AGREEMENT, WE PLANNED TO BUILD ON SENATOR BROOKE'S PROPOSAL TO LPF PERMREP SOTH PHETRASY THAT MIA ACCOUNTING BE DISASSOCIATED FROM OTHER ASPECTS OF THE AGREEMENT IN ORDER THAT THE CASUALTY RESOLUTION PROBLEM COULD BE ADDRESSED IMMEDIATELY. SOTH AGREED TO TRANSMIT THE PROPOSAL TO SAM NEUA FOR CONSIDERATION.

2. DURING HIS DISCUSSION WITH MRS. WEISSENBACK YESTERDAY (REF B), SOTH VERY METICULOUSLY AND WITH POINTED REPETITION STATED THAT NO INFORMATION REGARDING MIA'S OF ANY NATIONALITY CAN BE TRANSMITTED OR ACTIVITIES RELATED TO DETERMINING THEIR STATUS CAN BEGIN UNTIL THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT PRESCRIBED BY THE VIENTIANE AGREEMENT IS FORMED. SOTH
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EMPHASIZED THAT HE REALIZED THAT HIS DECISION OF THE LPF WOULD PRESENT CONTINUED DIFFICULTIES FOR THE FAMILIES CONCERNED BUT THAT THE TERMS OF THE VIENTIANE AGREEMENT WERE CLEAR ON THE TIMING OF THIS FUNCTION.

3. ALONG SAME LINES, SOTH INFORMED MRS. WEISSENBACK THAT LPF WOULD COOPERATE IN ATTEMPTING TO DETERMINE THE FATE OF MIA'S IN LAOS, AND THAT THERE WILL BE A MIXED COMMISSION FORMED FOR THIS PURPOSE. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE MIXED COMMISSION WOULD INCLUDE ONLY MEMBERS OF THE TWO LAO PARTIES.

4. MRS. WEISSENBACK INFORMS US THAT SHE WAS CLEARLY GIVEN THE IMPRESSION THAT SHE WAS TO TRANSMIT THE ABOVE INFORMATION TO THE U. S. EMBASSY. AS WE HAVE BEEN AWAITING REPLY TO SENATOR BROOK E'S PROPOSAL, WHICH WAS TO HAVE BEEN TRANSMITTED TO SAM NEUA, WE CONSIDER INFORMATION GIVEN TO MRS. WEISSENBACK IS SIGNIFICANT. IN VIEW OF THIS DEVELOPMENT, WE WILL REQUEST APPOINTMENT WITH SOTH TO DETERMINE WHETHER ABOVE INFORMATION EMBODIES OFFICIAL LPF RESPONSE TO SENATOR BROOKE'S PROPOSAL. GODLEY

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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